

110TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 2631

To award a congressional gold medal to Daw Aung San Suu Kyi in recognition of her courageous and unwavering commitment to peace, nonviolence, human rights, and democracy in Burma.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

FEBRUARY 13, 2008

Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself, Mr. MCCONNELL, Mr. AKAKA, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. BAUCUS, Mr. BAYH, Mr. BENNETT, Mr. BIDEN, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mr. BOND, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. BROWN, Mr. BROWNBACK, Mr. BUNNING, Mr. BURR, Mr. BYRD, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. CASEY, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mrs. CLINTON, Mr. COBURN, Mr. COLEMAN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. CRAIG, Mr. DODD, Mrs. DOLE, Mr. DOMENICI, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. ENSIGN, Mr. FEINGOLD, Mr. GREGG, Mr. HAGEL, Mr. HARKIN, Mrs. HUTCHISON, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. INOUE, Mr. ISAKSON, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. KERRY, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. KOHL, Mr. KYL, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mrs. LINCOLN, Mr. LUGAR, Mr. MARTINEZ, Mr. MCCAIN, Mrs. MCCASKILL, Mr. MENENDEZ, Ms. MIKULSKI, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. OBAMA, Mr. PRYOR, Mr. REED, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. SALAZAR, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. SMITH, Ms. SNOWE, Mr. SPECTER, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. STEVENS, Mr. SUNUNU, Mr. VOINOVICH, and Mr. WHITEHOUSE) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

A BILL

To award a congressional gold medal to Daw Aung San Suu Kyi in recognition of her courageous and unwavering commitment to peace, nonviolence, human rights, and democracy in Burma.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. FINDINGS.**

4 The Congress finds as follows:

5 (1) Aung San Suu Kyi was born on June 19,
6 1945, in Rangoon, Burma, to Aung San, commander
7 of the Burma Independence Army, and Ma Khin
8 Kyi.

9 (2) On August 15, 1988, Ms. Suu Kyi, in her
10 first political action, sent an open letter to the mili-
11 tary controlled government asking for free, open,
12 and multi-party elections.

13 (3) On September 24, 1988, the National
14 League for Democracy (NLD) was formed, with Ms.
15 Suu Kyi as the general-secretary, and it was, and re-
16 mains, dedicated to a policy of non-violence and civil
17 disobedience.

18 (4) Ms. Suu Kyi was subsequently placed under
19 house arrest, where she remained for the next 6
20 years—without being charged or put on trial—and
21 has been imprisoned twice more; she currently re-
22 mains under house arrest.

23 (5) Despite her detention, the National League
24 for Democracy won an open election with an over-

1 whelming 82 percent of the vote—which the military
2 junta nullified.

3 (6) While under house arrest, she has bravely
4 refused offers to leave the country to continue to
5 promote freedom and democracy in Burma.

6 (7) For her efforts on behalf of the Burmese
7 people, she has been awarded the Sakharov Prize for
8 Freedom of Thought in 1990, the Presidential
9 Medal of Freedom in 2000, and the Nobel Peace
10 Prize in 1991.

11 (8) Ms. Suu Kyi continues to fight on behalf of
12 the Burmese people, even donating her \$1.3 million
13 from her Nobel Prize to establish a health and edu-
14 cation fund for Burma.

15 (9) She is the world's only imprisoned Nobel
16 Peace Prize recipient, spending more than 12 of the
17 past 17 years under house arrest.

18 (10) Despite an assassination attempt against
19 her life, her prolonged illegal imprisonment, the con-
20 stant public vilification of her character, and her in-
21 ability to see her children or to see her husband be-
22 fore his death, Ms. Suu Kyi remains committed to
23 peaceful dialogue with her captors, Burma's military
24 regime, and Burma's ethnic nationalities towards

1 bringing democracy, human rights, and national rec-
2 onciliation to Burma.

3 **SEC. 2. CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL.**

4 (a) PRESENTATION AUTHORIZED.—The Speaker of
5 the House of Representatives and the President Pro Tem-
6 pore of the Senate shall make appropriate arrangements
7 for the presentation, on behalf of the Congress, of a gold
8 medal of appropriate design, to Daw Aung San Suu Kyi
9 in recognition of her courageous and unwavering commit-
10 ment to peace, nonviolence, human rights, and democracy
11 in Burma.

12 (b) DESIGN AND STRIKING.—For purposes of the
13 presentation referred to in subsection (a), the Secretary
14 of the Treasury (referred to in this Act as the “Sec-
15 retary”) shall strike a gold medal with suitable emblems,
16 devices, and inscriptions to be determined by the Sec-
17 retary.

18 **SEC. 3. DUPLICATE MEDALS.**

19 The Secretary may strike and sell duplicates in
20 bronze of the gold medal struck pursuant to section 2
21 under such regulations as the Secretary may prescribe, at
22 a price sufficient to cover the cost thereof, including labor,
23 materials, dies, use of machinery, and overhead expenses,
24 and the cost of the gold medal.

1 **SEC. 4. STATUS OF MEDALS.**

2 (a) NATIONAL MEDALS.—The medals struck pursu-
3 ant to this Act are national medals for purposes of chapter
4 51 of title 31, United States Code.

5 (b) NUMISMATIC ITEMS.—For purposes of sections
6 5134 and 5136 of title 31, United States Code, all medals
7 struck under this Act shall be considered to be numismatic
8 items.

9 **SEC. 5. AUTHORITY TO USE FUND AMOUNTS; PROCEEDS OF**
10 **SALE.**

11 (a) AUTHORITY TO USE FUND AMOUNTS.—There is
12 authorized to be charged against the United States Mint
13 Public Enterprise Fund such amounts as may be nec-
14 essary to pay for the costs of the medals struck pursuant
15 to this Act.

16 (b) PROCEEDS OF SALE.—Amounts received from the
17 sale of duplicate bronze medals authorized under section
18 3 shall be deposited into the United States Mint Public
19 Enterprise Fund.

